

# **IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD FOR THE IMPORTATION OF COMMERCIAL CONSIGNMENTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION INTO NEW ZEALAND FROM SPECIFIED COUNTRIES**

## **USER GUIDE**

The information in MAF animal product import health standards is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of four parts, designated alphabetically.

Part A. GENERAL INFORMATION contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for MAF import health standards and the general responsibilities of every importer of animals and animal products.

Part B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE contains sections that outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. Whether a permit to import is required to be obtained prior to importation is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, transport and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the consignment.

Part C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the New Zealand border prior to any consignment being given biosecurity clearance.

Part D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION contains model health certification which must be completed by the appropriate personnel as indicated in the certification and accompany the consignment to New Zealand.

## **PART A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1 IMPORT HEALTH STANDARD**

- 1.1 Pursuant to section 22 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, this document is the import health standard for the importation of commercial consignments of dairy products for human consumption into New Zealand from specified countries.
- 1.2 Obtaining biosecurity clearance for each consignment of dairy products for human consumption imported into New Zealand is dependent upon the consignment meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 This import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes in New Zealand's import policy or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason, at the discretion of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

## **2 IMPORTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.1 The costs to MAF in performing functions relating to the importation of dairy products for human consumption shall be recovered in accordance with the Biosecurity Act and any regulations made under that Act.
- 2.2 All costs involved with documentation, transport, storage and obtaining a biosecurity clearance shall be borne by the importer or agent.
- 2.3 Please note that commercial consignments of products imported into New Zealand for human consumption must comply with the Food Regulations (1984) of New Zealand. Importers are advised to contact the New Zealand Ministry of Health if in doubt whether or not imported foods are eligible for sale within New Zealand.

## **3 DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### **Biosecurity Clearance**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **Dairy products**

Includes all products manufactured from the milk of buffalo, cattle, goats or sheep and intended for human consumption. For example, cheese, yoghurt, butter, milk powder etc may be imported under this import health standard.

### **Director Animal Biosecurity**

Director Animal Biosecurity, New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, or any person who for the time being may lawfully exercise and perform the power and functions of the Director Animal Biosecurity.

### **Equivalence**

Acceptance by the Director Animal Biosecurity that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

### **Inspector**

As defined by the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **MAF**

The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

### **Sealed Packaging**

The packaging is impervious and sealed at the point of manufacture. The original packaging must be intact i.e. has not been opened. Providing that the packaging is sealed, impervious, tamper-proof and shows no sign of having been opened, then any material is suitable for packing. Examples are screw-top glass or plastic containers with tamper-proof seals, sealed foil or plastic bags, vacuum packed and heat-sealed plastic containers, cans, sewn multi-wall bags.

### **Specified countries**

Includes Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, New Caledonia, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States and Vanuatu.

## **4 EQUIVALENCE**

- 4.1 It is expected that the animal product will meet the conditions of this import health standard in every respect. If the products do not comply with the requirements, an application for equivalence may be submitted to MAF for consideration. Detailed information supporting the application for equivalence must be forwarded to MAF for a decision.

## **PART B. IMPORTATION PROCEDURE**

### **5 PERMIT TO IMPORT**

- 5.1 Importation into New Zealand of dairy products for human consumption which meet the requirements of this import health standard may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act, be given biosecurity clearance and do not require a biosecurity direction to a transitional facility. As such, they do not require a permit to import.

### **6 INFORMATION TO BE SUPPLIED BY IMPORTER**

- 6.1 The importer shall supply the following information:

- i. name and address of exporter,
- ii. name and address of manufacturer,
- iii. description and type of product.

### **7 ELIGIBILITY**

- 7.1 The products shall be commercially packed and identifiable as dairy products originating from a specified country. Individual products may be manufactured from the dairy produce of one or more of these countries e.g. in the case of product derived from more than one member state in the European Community. In this case, all of the countries of origin must be listed on the health certificate.
- 7.2 The products must be sealed within the original packaging on arrival.

## **8 DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING THE CONSIGNMENT**

- 8.1 The consignment shall be accompanied by appropriately completed health certification which meets the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION.
- 8.2 Documentation shall be in English, but may be bilingual (language of exporting country/English).
- 8.3 It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any documentation presented in accordance with the requirements of this import health standard is original (unless otherwise specified) and clearly legible. Failure to do so may result in delays in obtaining biosecurity direction and/or clearance or rejection of consignments.
- 8.4 Certification, in accordance with PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION, is not required in the case of dairy products originating from a specified country imported into New Zealand via AUSTRALIA. In this case, the consignment is eligible for entry into New Zealand provided that the Inspector is satisfied that the products have been shipped to New Zealand directly from an Australian supplier. For example, if the importer provides evidence in the form of a copy of the Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service (AQIS) quarantine clearance OR a letter from the Australian supplier identifying the product, the country of origin and when it was imported into Australia. The rationale for this exemption is that AQIS retain the original health certification when products are imported into Australia. Dairy products that have been transhipped through an Australian port (i.e. have not been cleared for entry into Australia) must be accompanied by ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION in accordance with PART D of this import health standard.

## **PART C. CLEARANCE PROCEDURE**

### **9 BIOSECURITY CLEARANCE**

- 9.1 Upon arrival in New Zealand the documentation accompanying the consignment shall be inspected by an Inspector at the port of arrival. The Inspector may also inspect the consignment, or a sample of the consignment.
- 9.2 Providing that the documentation meets all requirements noted under PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION and the consignment meets the conditions of section 7. ELIGIBILITY, the consignment may, subject to sections 27 and 28 of the Biosecurity Act 1993, be given a biosecurity clearance pursuant to section 26 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

## **PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

### **10 NEGOTIATED EXPORT CERTIFICATION**

The following documents are approved by MAF as being equivalent to the requirements of PART D. ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION, and are approved as model export certificates to accompany imports of dairy products for human consumption into New Zealand when appropriately completed by a representative of the exporting country's government veterinary authorities:

## 11 MODEL ZOOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

**COMMODITY:** DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

### **CERTIFYING AUTHORITY:**

Agency:

Department:

Country:

### **I. ORIGIN OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

(i). Name/s and address of processing premise/s:

(ii). Processing premises registration number:

### **II. CONSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION**

(i). The commodity contained in this consignment is (describe form and packaging):

(ii). Amount (in kgs) of the consignment:

### **III. DESTINATION OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

(i). Name and address of New Zealand importer:

### **IV. ZOOSANITARY INFORMATION**

I, ....., being a Government Veterinary Officer of ..... (insert name of country), or a veterinarian accredited to provide export certification on behalf of the Government Veterinary Service of ..... (insert name of country), certify with respect to the dairy products identified in this Zoo-Sanitary Certificate that:

11.1 The products are derived from a country or countries: ..... (insert name of country/countries) which have been free from foot and mouth disease for at least the 12 months immediately prior to manufacture and export of the products.

Signature of *Official Veterinarian*:

Date:

Name and address of office:

**N.B. Official stamp of the government veterinary authority of the exporting country must be applied to all pages of the Zoo-Sanitary Certification.**

Ref: AI00-32E

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